

Mansfield Downtown Partnership, Inc.

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER: SEPTEMBER 2013



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See the schedule on the last page of this newsletter!

→ TENTH ANNUAL ← FESTIVAL *on the* GREEN

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2013

FROM NOON UNTIL 4:00 PM

E.O. SMITH HIGH SCHOOL

★ ★ ★ *Don't Miss* ★ ★ ★

CELEBRATE MANSFIELD PARADE

→ NOON *on* STORRS ROAD ←

PLUS Juried Art Show Games FOOD BOOTHS Activity Booths Cooking Demos PETTING ZOO & MORE!



www.downtownstorrsfestival.org



Mansfield Downtown Partnership, Inc., 4 S. Eagleville Road, PO Box 513, Storrs, CT 06268
860.429.2740 ♦ mdp@mansfieldct.org ♦ www.mansfieldct.org/mdp





Public Hearing on Plans for Town Square

Application materials of the proposed plans for the Town Square are available at various Town offices (please see article at right) or on the Partnership's [website](#).

The Mansfield Downtown Partnership will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, September 17, 2013 at 7:00 pm at the Audrey P. Beck Building Town Council Chambers Room, 4 South Eagleville Road, to hear comments on a Zoning Permit application by the Town of Mansfield to develop a ±0.53 acre town square in Storrs Center at the intersection of Storrs Road (Route 195) and Dog Lane.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive written or oral comments regarding whether the submitted Zoning Permit application is in compliance with approval criteria for the Storrs Center Special Design District (the Storrs

Center Special Design District regulations are available on the Partnership's [website](#)).

The Public Hearing will include a presentation of the proposed plans. Application materials, including project mapping, are available for review at the Mansfield Planning Office, Mansfield Town Clerk's Office, the Downtown Partnership office (all at 4 South Eagleville Road), the Mansfield Public Library (54 Warrenville Road), and online at www.mansfieldct.gov.

[Storrs Center](#) is a mixed-use town center and main street corridor at the crossroads of the Town of Mansfield and UConn.

Located along Storrs Road adjacent to the University, the Town Hall, E.O. Smith High School, and the Mansfield Community Center, Storrs Center combines retail, restaurant, and office uses with residential apartments.

For more information about Storrs Center, please visit the Partnership's website, which includes detailed information as well as a list of frequently asked questions. Interested residents may also call the Partnership office (860.429.2740) with questions about the proposed plans for the town square. ♦

Travel Planners/Travel Advisors

It is with regret that we share the news that Moe Rondeau, owner of Travel Planners/Travel Advisors International passed away unexpectedly after a brief battle with cancer. Moe's friendly face will be missed by all of us, especially his Storrs Center neighbors.

TravelPlanners/Travel Advisors International is a

family business. Moe's son and business partner, Dan, has made the difficult decision to close their Storrs Center office and focus his attention on their offices in Rhode Island and Florida.

Clients of TravelPlanners/Travel Advisors International may contact their Lincoln, Rhode Island

office with questions (401.725.1234 or 1.800.633.2985).

The Mansfield Downtown Partnership extends its sympathies to the Rondeau family. We wish the former TravelPlanners employees the best of luck in their future endeavors. ♦



Tenth Annual Festival on the Green to Feature Black Prairie



[Black Prairie](#) will perform at 2:30 PM. Visit the [Music](#) page on the Festival on the Green website, www.downtownstorrsvfestival.org, for video and audio of the band.

Photo courtesy of Black Prairie

The Mansfield Downtown Partnership is pleased to welcome [Black Prairie](#) to the 10th Annual [Festival on the Green](#)!

Despite their individual musical pedigrees, the seasoned musicians that make up progressive string band Black Prairie aren't moonlighting. The ensemble is pulled together from different corners of Portland, OR's remarkably rich music scene, and while the high profile of each musician in the band, which includes three-fifths of the [Decemberists](#), ensures a certain amount of attention, it's clear that Black Prairie are in it for purely

musical reasons. They're playing a brand of Americana that defies easy categorization, cross-pollinating a number of different styles while exposing the venerable, forgotten roots of folk and bluegrass.

It all started when Decemberists guitarist Chris Funk wanted to spend more time playing the square-necked Dobro guitar. While on tour with the Decemberists, he and bassist Nate Query hatched the idea to start a primarily instrumental string band during their time off, but it was a couple more years before the Black Prairie lineup

solidified. Fellow Decemberist Jenny Conlee brought along her accordion, and prolific Portland musicians Annalisa Tornfelt (the Woolwines, Bearfoot) and Jon Neufeld (Jackstraw, Dolorean) on violin and guitar, respectively also joined the ranks.

Aside from uptempo bluegrass and more familiar string-band sounds, the group commands a firm rein over a near comprehensive cross-section of American musical styles. Conlee's accordion and Tornfelt's violin provide a gypsy element on certain numbers, locating the shared stylistic ground between old-time music and klezmer, and providing a unique twist on the results. Elsewhere, the band cultivates an almost classical approach to composition, with songs containing multiple movements that ebb and flow in a way that differs greatly from traditional pop or bluegrass structure.

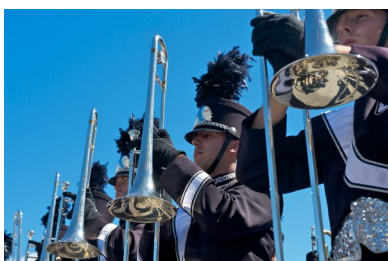
With a broad stylistic palette at their disposal and a pronounced emphasis on musicianship, Black Prairie is incredibly well poised for a band that, for most listeners, is just starting out. And their accumulated experience in numerous other bands ensures they aren't likely to quickly flame out in a blaze of ego or exhaustion. The band jokes about being in their honeymoon phase right now. "Considering how long it took us to get together, maybe we'll get that seven-year itch real early," laughs Query. "But seriously, this group really had no aspirations other than musical ones. It's just been for fun, and for our own sake."

Black Prairie will take to the *Festival on the Green* stage following a full summer schedule that includes stops at Bonaroo, Vancouver Folk Music Festival, and Newport Folk Fest. Their performance will begin at 2:30 pm. ♦



The Stearns Family of Mt. Dairy are the Grand Marshals for the 2013 Celebrate Mansfield Parade.

Photo by Kim Bova



The "Pride of Connecticut" UConn Marching Band will anchor the 2013 Parade.

Photo by Kim Bova



Waste stations at the Festival on the Green will have receptacles for recyclables, compostables, and trash. Volunteers will help visitors properly sort their waste.

Photo by Janine Callahan

Everybody Loves a Parade!

The [Celebrate Mansfield Parade](#) just keeps getting bigger and better!

This year over 600 participants will show their Mansfield pride as they march from the Storrs Post Office, up Storrs Road, and into the *Festival on the Green* grounds.

This year's Parade will feature an eclectic line-up of community groups, sports teams, local businesses, animals, and [larger-than-life puppets](#) from the Ballard Institute and Museum of Puppetry. The E. O. Smith High School band will lead the way, and the "Pride of Connecticut" UConn Marching Band will

anchor the procession.

Children are invited to ride their bicycle or tricycle with the traditional "Bikes, Tykes, and Trikes."

To participate, children and their adult(s) should meet at the corner of Storrs Road and S. Eagleville Road (Route 275) at 11:00 am. Volunteers will be there to assemble the riders. Cyclists of all ages are required to wear helmets.

The Grand Marshals for the 2013 Celebrate Mansfield Parade are the Stearns Family of Mt. Dairy. The Stearns Family has been farming in

Mansfield since 1771, and [Mt. Dairy](#), their family-run dairy, has been providing fresh milk for Mansfield and the neighboring towns since 1871! Join us in honoring the Stearns family and thanking them for over 200 years of contributions to our community!

Be sure to arrive early to grab a "seat on the street" because Storrs Road (Route 195) will close at 11:45 am to accommodate the Parade.

Please note that there will be **no parking on Storrs Road** from 8:30 am until 1:00 pm on Sunday, Sept. 22 to accommodate the Parade. ♦

Keep it Green: Our Low-Waste Efforts

The *Festival on the Green* is a low-waste event. Each year, *Festival* organizers work to reduce the amount of waste generated at the event and to divert a greater percentage of waste from being sent to the trash incinerator. The goal is to divert 90% of the waste.

Festival organizers take several steps to achieve a low-waste event. Through a generous donation from [Willimantic Waste](#)

[Paper](#), food vendors are provided with compostable cups, bowls, plates, and utensils. With the cooperation of our food vendors, a major portion of the trash generated at the Festival is composted.

Each community group and business with a booth is asked to plan activities that create little waste or use recyclable materials. Some examples of low-waste activities have included a variety of games,

learning new sports skills, face-painting, and hula-hooping.

Visitors will find waste stations with bins for recyclables, compostables trash, and returnable bottles instead of garbage cans around the grounds.

With the assistance of the volunteer groups, our Activity and Food booths, and visitors, our goal of 90% waste diversion is easily within reach in 2013! ♦



Thank you to our Festival on the Green Sponsors!

EVENT SPONSORS



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CELEBRATE MANSFIELD WEEKEND 2013

FRIDAY, SEPT. 20

SATURDAY, SEPT. 21

11.00 AM

GRAND OPENING of STORRS CENTER

Dog Lane

Presented by Mansfield Downtown Partnership,

Storrs Center, and The Oaks on the Square

Free & Open to the public

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING

RIBBON CUTTING and TOURS of THE OAKS ON THE SQUARE

One Dog Lane

Presented by The Oaks on the Square

Free & Open to the public

1.00 PM - 7.00 PM

MUSIC in the STREET

Dog Lane

Presented by Mansfield Downtown

Partnership and Storrs Center

Free & Open to the public

6.30 PM - 9.30 PM

FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Mansfield Community Center

Presented by Mansfield Community Center

Free & Open to the public

7.30 PM

FRIDAY NIGHT MOVIE: GREASE

von der Mehden Recital Hall

Presented by StoDoArts

Tickets: \$5 Cash at the door

NOON

GUIDED WALK of WHETTEN WOODS

Meet at the trailhead near 62 Dog Lane

Presented by Joshua's Trust

Free & Open to the public

12.30 PM - 3.30 PM

FREE MANSFIELD DAY

Mansfield Community Center

Presented by Mansfield Community Center

Free & Open to Mansfield residents

1.00 PM

GUIDED WALK of MOSS SANCTUARY

Meet at the Mansfield Community Center

Presented by Town of Mansfield

Parks and Recreation Department

Free & Open to the public

3.00 PM - 6.00 PM

MUSIC at the MARKET: TUESDAY SAINTS

Mansfield Town Hall

Presented by Storrs Farmers Market

Free & Open to the public

8.00 PM and 10.00 PM

PUPPET SLAM

UConn Studio Theatre

By Ballard Institute & Museum of Puppetry

Free & Open to the public

FOR MORE INFO, VISIT www.downtownstorrsfestival.org